Interrupting Chicken – Gail Ruda

**Being a Good Citizen: Strategies to Prevent Interrupting Others**

**Kindergarten:** Social studies Standard 6: Citizenship Responsibilities

6-1 I can cooperate in classroom activities.

6-2 I can take personal responsibility to follow directions and rules.

6-4 I can discuss the qualities and actions of a good citizen with emphasis on trust, respect, honesty, responsibility, fairness, compassion and self-control.

**Objective**: The students will discuss the definition of interrupting and participate in choosing a strategy that will remind them not to interrupt others when they are speaking. We will discuss what self-control means and why it is important.

**Materials:**

Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein

Whiteboard to draw a discussion web

Name cards for each child in the class

2 Cards with Not Interrupting choices drawn on them

Popsicle sticks and Good Citizen award certificates

**Procedure**: I will read “Interrupting Chicken” to the class and we will discuss how the Papa felt in the story when the little chicken kept interrupting him and how the illustrations show his feelings. We will talk about how they think I feel when they interrupt me and we will create a discussion web that has’ Interrupting’ in the center and the feelings around it. Then we will separate whole group interruptions from small group interruptions. I will give them 3 strategies that I will use if they interrupt me during whole group – I will stop talking, make a quiet sign with my hand or ask them to raise their hand. Then I will provide them with 2 choices I can do to remind them not to interrupt me during small group instruction. I can wear a bright necklace that I only put on when I am instructing small groups or they can put their hand on my shoulder and wait next to me until I can speak to them. I will pass out cards with their names on them and put both choices on the floor on cards that have a necklace on one and a picture of a child with a hand on someone’s shoulder on the other one. The children will take turns voting on the choice they like best by putting their name on the drawing they are voting for. We will talk about strategies they can use before they ask me if I am in small group. (Look at your neighbor’s paper to help you remember the directions or ask 3 friends and then ask me.) Children who follow this procedure will be able to put a popsicle stick in their behavior pocket so that when small group time is over they can receive a sticker for following the procedure. They can also put a popsicle stick in their pocket if they quietly remind someone else not to interrupt!

**Assessment**: Children who consistently follow the procedure will no longer get a sticker they will receive an award for being a good citizen in class to take home to their family